

### REMARKS

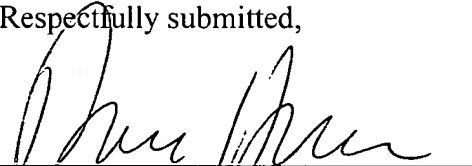
In the Office Action dated December 27, 2002, the Examiner required a restriction of claims for examination purposes under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Applicant elects without traverse Group I, claims 1-20, drawn to a secretion suctioning device, and cancels without prejudice Group II, claims, 21-24, drawn to a kit provided with a secretion suctioning device .

### CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests examination of the current application consisting of Group I, claims 1-20, as identified in the Office Action.

Dated: January 27, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald Abramson (Reg. No. 34,762)

HUGHES HUBBARD & REED LLP  
One Battery Park Plaza  
New York, New York 10004-1482  
212-837-6000